



Seward coal dust / sequential images

Russ Maddox

to:

Wallace A\ (DEC\) Evans, John Pavitt

02/24/2012 05:26 AM

Hide Details

From: Russ Maddox <russmaddox@Exemption 6>

To: "Wallace A\ (DEC\) Evans" <Wallace.Evans@alaska.gov>, John Pavitt/R10/USEPA/US@EPA,

Please respond to Russ Maddox <russmaddox@Exemption 6>

[https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardCoalLoadingFacilityFeb192012Jpg?](https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardCoalLoadingFacilityFeb192012Jpg?authkey=Gv1sRgCKjV5PKR0O-oIA&feat=email)

[authkey=Gv1sRgCKjV5PKR0O-oIA&feat=email](https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardCoalLoadingFacilityFeb192012Jpg?authkey=Gv1sRgCKjV5PKR0O-oIA&feat=email)

[https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardRecyclingSiteFeb212012Jpg?](https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardRecyclingSiteFeb212012Jpg?authkey=Gv1sRgCODgl_fZgff3IQ&feat=email)

[authkey=Gv1sRgCODgl_fZgff3IQ&feat=email](https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardRecyclingSiteFeb212012Jpg?authkey=Gv1sRgCODgl_fZgff3IQ&feat=email)

[https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardRecyclingSiteFeb232012Jpg?](https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardRecyclingSiteFeb232012Jpg?authkey=Gv1sRgCKOXzLW2zJngVw&feat=email)

[authkey=Gv1sRgCKOXzLW2zJngVw&feat=email](https://picasaweb.google.com/sweeper07/SewardRecyclingSiteFeb232012Jpg?authkey=Gv1sRgCKOXzLW2zJngVw&feat=email)

Hi Wally and John,

Here is another week's worth of coal dust images from Seward. The new used oil and antifreeze collection building continues to provide an excellent opportunity to observe the chronic and cumulative deposition of coal dust in Seward's harbor. The temperature has rarely been above freezing but the southern facing posture of this building causes it to heat up and melt the snow drifted inside. As the season progresses and we get occasional south winds again you can see how the southern edge of the surface is windblown a bit more (whiter) than the back half. The occasional south breeze is pushing the coal dust deeper into the building so far. I imagine as the season progresses and stronger south winds become common that the coal dust will be blown back out of this open structure. Even though lots of snow has melted as you have both seen in these last weeks images you'll notice that there are no black streaks running down the sides of the white tank and that the dried dust accumulated on the surfaces is now arranging itself in little piles and clumps. So my conclusion is that the melted snow is evaporating before it can drain or flow. Note the white sides and black surface. On the rectangular shaped screened reservoir for pouring used oil in to the tank you can see a bit of streaking on the sides from a bit of oil spillage/overflow but the rest of the surface is covered with black dry coal dust building up in piles especially where sheltered from the south breezes. This building being situated mere feet from the harbor and hundreds of vessels downwind clearly indicates the level of coal dust exposure they are subjected to. I receive complaints from vessel owners daily. But, now I refer them to attorneys rather than having them waste their breath leaving a message with the facility.

I plan to launch our citizens air monitoring project in late March for a full year and look forward to sharing that data with you, too. Thanks for all of your efforts on behalf of our environment.

Regards, Russ